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ABSTRACT

This book discusses ways to involve students, employees, programs, and activities in school decisions. The book stresses the belief that decisions made by a group of stakeholders are more efficacious than are solitary decisions. Each of the eight chapters addresses a specific topic, and each ends with a summary and a list of exercises. Chapter 1 discusses strategies for team building and collaborative decision-making, whereas chapter 2 stresses the importance of schools' human-resource functions. Chapter 3 details the importance of community relations and features a variety of community-relations programs and activities. Chapter 4 describes the importance of instructional decisions and instructional evaluation. Chapter 5 lists a variety of financial decisions that have to be made by a school's decision makers and presents a case study to illustrate the process. A discussion of the importance of making effective political and policy decisions is taken up in chapter 6, which uses illustrative decisions to explain daily financial choices. Chapter 7 centers on crisis decision making and those decisions charged with high emotions or even danger. Finally, chapter 8 discusses the life of a decision maker and the importance of developing alternative decisions. (RJM)

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